

2644



Dear Ms. Lee Ping,

I submitted patent application form number 09/137,952 to you on August 21, 1998.

This patent was approved in Japan almost two years ago. (Patent number 3057487, issue on April 21, 2000, filing on June 30, 1998)

I wonder if you could let me know the status of this US patent application. Specifically, is there anything else you need from me? If this is just a matter of waiting, could you please give me an estimate of how much more time it will take?

If possible, I would appreciate a response by fax (JAPAN 06-6653-8400) or by e-mail (kisigami@osk2.3web.ne.jp) as soon as it is most convenient for you.

Thank you for your time and trouble.

Sincerely yours,

Apr.02,2002

Hisashi Kishigami

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